

Debunking America

Territoire et mémoire : the American Dream is the ideal that the United States is a land of opportunity that allows the possibility of upward mobility, freedom, and equality for people of all classes who work hard and have the will to succeed. But how was it built and what is its legacy ?

UNIT 3- How does art contribute	How does art contribute to building up a certain representation?
At the end of the Unit, I will	Read a story about an American myth that I will have written
What vocabulary will I need ?	- depicting a visual document - comparison - society
What grammatical structure will I need ?	- supposition - modals - past tenses
What will I learn about ?	- the origin of the American Dream - how a common memory is built - the need for a representation
What documents will be used ?	1. Thanksgiving: Myth and Reality 1a- The Wampanoags' Thanksgiving, David A. Silverman, 2019, <i>This Land Is Their Land: The Wampanoag Indians, Plymouth Colony, and the Troubled History of Thanksgiving</i> (2019) 1b- Coming to America on the Mayflower - Tim Bailey, <i>gilderlehrman.org</i>, 2024 1c- History of Thanksgiving, <i>history.com</i>, 2012 1d- The 1st Thanksgiving, Jean Leon Jerome, 1912-1915 1e- Thanksgiving: Turkey's a feast, Norman Rockwell, 1943 1f- The First Thanksgiving: Separating Myth From Fact <i>Teenvogue.Com</i>, 2020 2. Go West! Manifest Destiny & Frontier Myth 2a- What is the Manifest Destiny? 2b- American Progress, John Gast, 1872 2c- Paintings by Frederic Remington (1861-1909) 2d- Cowboy life, Theodore Roosevelt, <i>An Autobiography</i>, 1913 3. Arriving in the USA: Immigration Dreams and Realities 3a: The New Colossus, Emma Lazarus, 1889 3b – Uncle Sam's first Thanksgiving, Thomas Nast <i>Harper's Weekly</i>, 1896 3c- “<i>You Tired, You Poor</i>”, A short story by Rupert Morgan, 2008 3d- In the Land of Promise by Charles Frederick Ulrich (1858-1908): 3e- On the Threshold of a New World, Mark Helprin, <i>Ellis Island and other stories</i>, 1976 4. Representations of Immigrants in American Culture 4a- Embracing illegals, <i>Business week</i>, 2005 4b- “<i>The New American Gothic</i>” by Criselda Vasquez 4c- “I Can Tell By The Color of Your Skin You’re Not From Around Here, Are You?”, Eagle Cartoon, 2010 4d- The New, New Colossus, caricature by Julian Sherthus, 2016

	5. What Next? 5a- Why The Handmaid's Tale is so relevant today' Jennifer Keishin Armstrong, <i>BBC</i>, 25 April 2018 5b – Is The Handmaid's Tale a prediction? <i>Interview with Margaret Atwood</i>, nytimes.com, 2017 5c- Trump's America reads more like 'The Handmaid's Tale' Mai Clifford, Opinions and Editorials Editor, February 19, <i>thepacepress.org</i>, 2025 5d- Writing The Handsmaid's Tale, cartoon by Tom Gauld, 2017 5e - Still Two Americas: Cartoonist Ben Sergeant, 2015 5f- Viewpoint: What it's like to be an African in the US Larry Madowo, <i>BBC</i>, 4 June 2020 5g – This is America, Childish Gambino, 2018
Final Task	You will write and read a story about a moment of America and read it outloud in class

Instructions for your Final Task :

- 1- You will need to be at least 3 and up to 5 people reading this text
- 2- You will need to have one narrator and at least 2 different characters
- 3- The grading will be common concerning the content and the story,
- 4- And will be individual on the grammar and reading part.
- 5- Make sure to link part of the story to an episod of the American as seen in class
- 6- Your story must be at lest 6 minutes long (3 minutes of reading per person)
- 7- It will have an end and a conclusion
- 8 – You may make a video before hand but you need to register it within one shot